

DYLAN

Ok, Ms. Romantic Symbolism, what should I be seeing?

JAMIE

Stories, people, humanity. In a million pages all around you.

DYLAN

Ms. Romantic Symbolism it is.

JAMIE

Jamie Ellis, actually. But you weren't far off.

Jamie starts to scan the bookshelves. They run their finger along the spines.

JAMIE

And what should I call you? Ms. Burnt-Out Cynicism?

DYLAN

Dylan Eiger.

JAMIE

Ah I see our parents both put in minimal planning on the name front.

DYLAN

(under her breath)

The only minimal thing in their planning...

JAMIE

What was that?

DYLAN

Oh. (shit) Nothing.

JAMIE

No, you dissed them. Spill it.

DYLAN

Let's just say I didn't spend my childhood galavanting around English moors with a Liverpudlian orphan.

JAMIE

That...is quite the reference. Don't think I've thought about Wuthering Heights in a minute.

DYLAN

I've spent a good portion of the last 72 hours rereading and writing an essay on it, so it's quite fresh in the mind.

JAMIE

Ah. You're right though, that's definitely not you. You're clearly much more Mr. Darcy.

DYLAN

I only wish I had the status to back up being a bit of a dick.

JAMIE

No? Who would you say?

Dylan pauses, unsure of how to answer.

DYLAN

I don't know. I always really related to Jo March in "Little Women"

JAMIE

Interesting. Planning on giving up your dreams sometime soon?

DYLAN

No. I guess not the ending.

JAMIE

Fancy yourself a novelist?

DYLAN

...I guess. I'm working on something right now, but I don't know if it's anything to write home about.

JAMIE

So humble. I'm already hooked.

DYLAN

Maybe I'll write you into it. Is there a character I can base you on?

JAMIE

Leslie Burke.

DYLAN

Is that the girl from "Bridge to Terabithia?"

JAMIE

Yeah.

DYLAN

You want to be a dead 5th grader? Interesting choice.

JAMIE

(cautious)

I mean her actual character. Her willingness to express herself and encourage others to do so. The creativity, the appreciation for the joy of life. Seems like a good thing to strive for.

DYLAN

Ok that's a pretty solid answer.